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02/07/2011 Minutes

D R A F T
VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP
FEBRUARY 7, 2011 MEETING

RESERVOIR COMMITTEE
Town Hall Annex, First Floor

In attendance: Cathy Garnett, Martine Gougault, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Ann LeRoyer, Stephan Miller, David White. **Facilitator:** Jane Howard **Minutes:** Elizabeth Karpati

Next meetings: 7:30 p.m. Wed. March 7, Town Hall Annex, First Floor Conference Room.

- David White agreed to serve as **co-chair**; a second co-chair is needed.
- The rest of the meeting was devoted to **planning for the habitat garden**.
 - Martine will serve as project coordinator. Jane can help with liaison with DPW.
 - Jane reported that we can choose from a supply of boulders at the Town Yard.
 - The Town will help with sod removal, which is necessary because if we make plantings in a grassy area, the grass will take over. But the young trees in the area must be protected.
 - Martine reported that the soil tests show the soil in the area of the planned garden is pretty good and doesn't even need lime.
 - DPW is understaffed, so we could ask if a contractor is willing to donate some heavy work.
 - We need permission from the Con Com, need to start the process soon.
 - We discussed the various steps needed and developed a rough timeline, see below,

TO-DO LIST FOR HABITAT GARDEN AT THE RESERVOIR (Draft 2/8/11)

Preparations: (in approximate order) *** Point person needed

- Prepare application to Con Com, if possible by Feb. 17 for meeting on March 3: plot plan, how it would affect Mill Brook. Format: RDA or NOI? Martine working with Cathy.
- Recheck with DPW how much they can do and when; ask about logs. Jane?
- If necessary, try to find contractor(s) willing to donate needed heavy work that the DPW can't do. ***
- Get volunteers, including some long-range ones for watering & maintenance, from Census Survey sign-up, high school SAVE club; any others? *** (Elizabeth can work from Census Survey.)
- Start ordering plants, mostly from NEWFS, to be held by seller until needed. Martine.
- Boulders: Look at the ones at DPW yard (after snow melts), figure out which one could go where, mark on plot plan and mark each boulder somehow. Several committee members? If more boulders needed, look at the ones on-site and ask Park & Rec if they could be used.
- Determine what supplies are needed, e.g. soil amendments, mulch, maybe some topsoil to replace what is removed with sod. Buy ahead of time (store where?) or make sure we can buy and deliver everything when needed. ***
- Determine what siltation barriers will be needed (silt socks?), buy ahead (store where?). Also determine and buy what can protect temporarily bare soil. ***

- Develop a maintenance and watering schedule.

Installation (dates to be determined, depending on weather and DPW availability).

All work by volunteers except as noted; “captains” needed for each phase.

- Put siltation barriers in place.
- DPW removes sod, (aerates soil??), places boulders and logs. (Any work by volunteer contractors?) Volunteers promptly cover soil to prevent erosion.
- Remove any grass left close to existing trees, dig in soil amendments, spread any topsoil, cover soil again until planted.
- Plants delivered in Martine’s truck. Planting in stages on weekends, if possible on May 14 and 21 (28? = Memorial Day weekend), maybe June 4 (11?). Mulch around new plants. Some areas (meadow) may be seeded.
- Install labels and signs.
- Water as needed throughout first summer.